

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A method of providing data representative of geographical information to
2 equipment for providing weather-related information, the method comprising:
3 placing a telephone call over a telephone network from the equipment to an
4 information server;
5 receiving at the information server, in conjunction with the telephone call,
6 information corresponding to an origin of the telephone call;
7 processing the received information to generate data representative of geographical
8 information;
9 sending the data representative of geographical information to the equipment in
10 conjunction with the telephone call;
11 programming the equipment using the data representative of geographical
12 information to provide geographically based weather-related information.
- 13 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the equipment is a NOAA Weather Radio
14 receiver.
- 15 3. The method of claim 2 wherein the data representative of geographical
16 information is a code indicating the geographical location of the equipment.
- 17 4. The method of claim 3 wherein the code is a Specific Area Message Encoding
18 code.
- 19 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the equipment directly connects to the telephone
20 network.
- 21 6. The method of claim 5 wherein the equipment places the telephone call in
22 response to a configuration command from a user.

23 7. The method of claim 1 wherein the processing step includes the information server
24 querying a database.

25 8. The method of claim 7 wherein the database associates telephone numbers with
26 data representative of geographical information.

27 9. The method of claim 8 wherein the information corresponding to the origin of the
28 telephone call is the telephone number from which the call was placed.

29 10. The method of claim 9 wherein the processing step includes the information
30 server querying the database to determine the data representative of geographical information
31 associated with the telephone number from which the call was placed.

32 11. The method of claim 1 wherein the data representative of geographical
33 information is sent to the equipment using Frequency Shift Keyed signals.

34 12. The method of claim 1 wherein the data representative of geographical
35 information is sent to the equipment using Dual Tone Multiple Frequency signals.

36 13. The method of claim 1 wherein the telephone call is a toll-free telephone call.

37 14. The method of claim 1 wherein the information corresponding to the origin of the
38 telephone call is automatic number identification.

39 15. The method of claim 1 wherein the information corresponding to the origin of the
40 telephone call is an Incoming Caller Line Identification signal.

41 16. A system for providing data representative of geographical information to
42 equipment for providing weather-related information, the system comprising:

43 means for placing a telephone call over a telephone network from the equipment to an
44 information server;

45 means for receiving at the information server, in conjunction with the telephone call,
46 information corresponding to an origin of the telephone call;

47 means for processing the received information to generate data representative of
48 geographical information;

49 means for sending the data representative of geographical information to the
50 equipment in conjunction with the telephone call;

51 means for programming the equipment using the data representative of geographical
52 information to provide geographically based weather-related information.

53 17. The system of claim 16 wherein the equipment is a NOAA Weather Radio
54 receiver.

55 18. The system of claim 16 wherein the data representative of geographical
56 information is a code indicating the geographical location of the equipment.

57 19. The system of claim 18 wherein the code is a Specific Area Message Encoding
58 code.

59 20. The system of claim 16 wherein the means for processing includes means for the
60 information server querying a database.

61 21. The system of claim 20 wherein the database associates telephone numbers with
62 data representative of geographical information.

63 22. The system of claim 21 wherein the information corresponding to the origin of
64 the telephone call is the telephone number from which the call was placed.

65 23. The system of claim 22 wherein the means for processing includes means for the
66 information server querying the database to determine the data representative of geographical
67 information associated with the telephone number from which the call was placed.

68 24. Apparatus for providing weather-related information, comprising:
69 a telephone jack for connecting to a telephone network;

70 a telephone call provisioning circuit for placing a telephone call over the telephone
71 network;

72 a data receiver circuit for receiving data representative of geographical information;
73 a programming circuit for using the data representative of geographical information
74 to provide geographically based weather-related information.

75 25. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the apparatus is a NOAA Weather Radio
76 receiver.

77 26. The apparatus of claim 25 wherein the data representative of geographical
78 information is a code.

79 27. The apparatus of claim 26 wherein the code is a Specific Message Area Encoding
80 code.

81 28. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the data receiver circuit is configured to
82 receive Frequency Shift Keyed signals.

83 29. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the data receiver circuit is configured to
84 receive Dual Tone Multiple Frequency signals.